

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A computer-implemented method of simulcasting multimedia content to enable seamless migration from a first multimedia receiver to a second multimedia receiver, the second multimedia receiver supporting at least one encryption ~~format~~ algorithm not supported by the first multimedia receiver, the method comprising:

encrypting a group of original multimedia channel keys using a first encryption ~~format~~ algorithm decryptable by the first multimedia receiver to produce a first group of encrypted multimedia channel keys;

encrypting said same group of original multimedia channel keys using a second encryption ~~format~~ algorithm decryptable by the second multimedia receiver to produce a second group of encrypted multimedia channel keys, the second encryption ~~format~~ algorithm being developed after the first encryption ~~format~~ algorithm, and the second multimedia receiver being developed after the first multimedia receiver; and

concurrently transmitting said first group of encrypted multimedia channel keys with said second group of encrypted multimedia channel keys to a plurality of multimedia subscribers having either the first multimedia receiver or the second multimedia receiver, wherein said first group of encrypted multimedia channel keys is decryptable by the first multimedia receiver and said second group of encrypted multimedia channel keys is decryptable by the second multimedia receiver but not the first multimedia receiver.

2. (currently amended) The method as in claim 1 wherein said second encryption ~~format~~ algorithm is digital video broadcasting ("DVB") encryption.

3. (currently amended) The method as in claim 1 further comprising:
transmitting entitlement information with said group of multimedia channel keys encrypted using said second encryption ~~format~~ algorithm, said entitlement information indicating which of said multimedia channels a user has the right to decrypt.

4. (original) The method as in claim 3 further comprising:
decrypting said second group of encrypted multimedia channel keys at a multimedia receiver.

5. (original) The method as in claim 4 further comprising:
searching said entitlement information to determine whether said user has the right to view a particular channel selected by said user; and
decrypting said channel using one of said decrypted keys if said user has said right.

6 – 10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) A system for processing multimedia channels to enable seamless migration from a first multimedia receiver to a second multimedia receiver, the second multimedia receiver supporting at least one encryption ~~format~~ algorithm not supported by the first multimedia receiver, the system comprising:

a computer readable storage medium having stored thereon original decryption keys for decrypting said multimedia channels, wherein each original decryption key is successively encrypted in both a first encryption ~~format~~ algorithm and a second encryption ~~format~~ algorithm to produce first and second encrypted decryption keys, respectively, the second encryption ~~format~~ algorithm being developed after the first encryption ~~format~~ algorithm, the second multimedia receiver being developed after the first multimedia receiver;

said decryption keys encrypted in said first encryption ~~format~~ algorithm being decryptable by the first multimedia receiver; and

said decryption keys encrypted in said second encryption ~~format~~ algorithm being decryptable by the second multimedia receiver but not the first multimedia receiver.

12. (currently amended) The system as in claim 11 wherein said second encryption ~~format~~ algorithm permits all of said decryption keys to be decrypted in real-time as they are received by said multimedia receiver.

13. (currently amended) The system as in claim 12 wherein said second encryption ~~format~~ algorithm is digital video broadcast ("DVB") encryption.

14. (original) The system as in claim 11 further comprising:

transmitting entitlement information indicating which of said multimedia channels a user has a right to view.

15. (original) The system as in claim 14 further comprising:

said second type of multimedia receiver decrypting only those keys identified by said entitlement information.

16. (previously presented) The system as in claim 14 further comprising:

said second multimedia receiver being configured to decrypt said decryption keys and using said decryption keys to decrypt multimedia channels identified by said entitlement information.

17. (currently amended) The system as in claim 11 further comprising:

said second multimedia receiver being configured to decrypt a decryption key and use the decryption key to decrypt a multimedia channel; and

said second multimedia receiver further being configured to re-encrypt said multimedia channel using an alternative encryption ~~format~~ algorithm not decryptable by said first multimedia receiver.

18. (currently amended) The system as in claim 17 wherein said alternative encryption ~~format~~ algorithm is digital video broadcast ("DVB") encryption.

19. (currently amended) The system as in claim 17 wherein the first and second multimedia receivers are configured to store said multimedia channels in said alternative encryption ~~format~~ algorithm on a mass storage device.

20. (previously presented) The system as in claim 19 wherein the first and second multimedia receivers are configured to decrypt and play back said multimedia channel from said mass storage device responsive to a user request to play back said multimedia channel.

21. (currently amended) A method of simulcasting multimedia content to enable seamless migration from a first type of multimedia receiver to a second type of multimedia receiver, the method comprising:

encrypting a channel key using a standard conditional access ("CA") encryption format algorithm decryptable by the first type of multimedia receiver to generate a first encrypted channel key;

encrypting said channel key using a non-standard encryption ~~format~~ algorithm decryptable by the second type of multimedia receiver but not by the first type of multimedia receiver, to provide a second encrypted channel key;

concurrently transmitting the first and second encrypted channel keys to first and second multimedia receivers of the first type and second type, respectively;

transmitting an encrypted channel to the first and second multimedia receivers;

within the first multimedia receiver:

decrypting the first encrypted channel key using a standard CA decryption ~~format~~ algorithm to recover the channel key; and

decrypting the encrypted channel using the channel key; and

within the second multimedia receiver:

decrypting the second encrypted channel key using a non-standard decryption to recover the channel key; and

decrypting the encrypted channel using the channel key.

22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the non-standard encryption format algorithm comprises open encryption.